

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
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O 080951Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5664  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0365

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MZ, UR  
SUBJECT: PODGORNÝ VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE: WRAP-UP

REF: MAPUTO 297 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: ON SURFACE, BOTH SOVIETS AND MOZAMBIQUE  
HAD REASON TO VIEW PODGORNÝ VISIT AS A SUCCESS.  
RECEPTION ACCORDED PODGORNÝ WAS EXCEEDINGLY WARM,  
SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA AND MACHEL'S IMPORTANCE  
TO LIBERATION STRUGGLE WERE HIGHLIGHTED, A FRIENDSHIP  
TREATY WHICH BOTH HAD REASON TO WANT WAS SIGNED,  
AND THERE WERE PROMISES OF INCREASED MILITARY AND TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE FOR MOZAMBIQUE. ON OTHER HAND, WE BELIEVE  
MOZAMBIQUE MAY HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED THAT VISIT DID  
NOT DO MORE TO PROMOTE THE FORTUNES OF THE PATRIOTIC  
FRONT OR MUGABE AND THAT THE SOVIETS SEEMINGLY DID NOT  
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OFFER TO UNDERTAKE ANY CAPITAL INTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECTS. ON WHOLE, HOWEVER, VISIT CONFIRMED WHAT BE-  
CAME EVIDENT AT FRELIMO'S THIRD PARTY CONGRESS, I.E., THAT  
THE GPRM WISHES A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET  
UNION AND IS NOT AT ALL CONCERNED ABOUT BEING VIEWED AS  
A MEMBER OF THE MARXIST-LENINIST CAMP. THE FULL  
SIGNIFICANCE OF VISIT WILL HAVE TO AWAIT MORE INFORMATION

ON WHAT THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP ENTAILS.  
END SUMMARY.

2. MOZAMBIQUE PROVIDES ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME: MEDIA COVERAGE OF NIKOLAY PODGORNÝ'S MARCH 29 TO APRIL 1 VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE WAS EXTENSIVE AND WELL PLANNED. PRESS PLAYED UP LONG HISTORY OF ASSOCIATION BETWEEN CPSU AND FRELIMO, THE SUPPORT SOVIET UNION HAD GIVEN FRELIMO DURING ITS ARMED STRUGGLE, AND SIMILARITY IN THE IDEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES ESPOUSED BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND PARTIES. IN ALL HIS SPEECHES DURING VISIT, MACHEL SHOWERED SOVIETS WITH PRAISE FOR THEIR PAST ASSISTANCE, (-USSR SUPPORTED FRELIMO FROM THE BEGINNING"), POINTED OUT HOW MUCH OF A INSPIRATION FRELIMO HAD DRAWN FROM RUSSIA'S OCTOBER 1917 REVOLUTION AND SPOKE WARMLY OF HOW MOZAMBIQUE-USSR FRIENDSHIP TREATY REPRESENTED A MIXING OF THE "BLOOD OF THE MOZAMBIQUE AND SOVIET PEOPLES."

3. RUSSIANS CAPITALIZED ON GPRM'S RECEPTIVITY AND WARMTH: PODGORNÝ MINGLED FREELY WITH PUBLIC ON WALKING TOURS THROUGH SEVERAL PARTS OF CITY AND ADDRESSED MASS PUBLIC RALLY IN CENTER OF CAPITAL. (DAR ES SALAAM PODGORNÝ'S REQUEST FOR A PUBLIC MEETING WAS REJECTED.) MORE IMPORTANTLY, RUSSIANS WERE ABLE TO WALK AWAY WITH JOINT COMMUNIQUE APPARENTLY SHAPED TO THEIR LIKING AND WITH A RATHER WIDE-RANGING TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, CALLING FOR CONTINUED MILITARY COOPERATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALREADY SIGNED AGREEMENTS AND FOR BILATERAL CONSUL-CONFIDENTIAL

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TATIONS IN ALMOST EVERY SPHERE.

4. FROM MOZAMBIQUE POINT OF VIEW, PODGORNÝ VISIT WAS PROBABLY VIEWED AS MAJOR SUCCESS. MOZAMBIicans WERE ABLE TO GARNER A TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, WHICH WE BELIEVE THEY WANTED AS MUCH AS THE RUSSIANS AS A TANGIBLE EMBODIMENT OF THE FRIENDSHIP AND LINKS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES. SECOND, HAVING RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO ADOPT MARXIST-LENINISM AS FRELIMO PARTY IDEOLOGY, PODGORNÝ'S VISIT GAVE MOZAMBIQUE'S SOCIALIST REVOLUTION A SYMBOLIC BLESSING. THIRD, THE VISIT PROBABLY RESULTED IN PROMISES OF INCREASED SOVIET MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE AS YET BEEN NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO THE GPRM AS THERE WERE IN TANZANIA.

5. THE MOZAMBIicans MAY NOT HAVE ACCOMPLISHED QUITE AS MUCH FROM VISIT AS THEY HAD HOPED. THEY WERE PROBABLY LOOKING FOR BUT DID NOT GET THE SOVIETS EITHER TO COME

OUT SOLIDLY AND SQUARELY BEHIND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLE, OR TO COMMIT THEMSELVES PUBLICLY TO ASSIST MOZAMBIQUE WITH A NUMBER OF CAPITAL INTENSIVE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-  
.3,5 049'3:5 . WITH REGARD TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, THE SOVIETS TOOK A RATHER STAND-OFFISH POSITION JUST AS THEY DID IN LUSAKA AND TANZANIA. THE MOZAMBIQUE-USSR JOINT COMMUNIQUE MERELY ENDORESED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS "AN IMPORTANT STEP IN GUARANTEEING THE UNITY OF PATRIOTIC FORCES IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE." HOWEVER, THE MOZAMBIQUE COMMUNIQUE DID GO FURTHER THAN THE COMMUNQUES SIGNED IN DAR AND LUSAKA BY DESCRIBING THE "AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE TO WHOM POWERR SHOULD BE TURNED OVER IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME, AS "THE PATRIOTIC FORCES OF ZIMBABWE." THIS LATTER CLAUSE WAS PROBABLY  
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INTENDED AS A REFERENCE TO THE ZIPA GUERRILLAS. THE COMMUNIQUE (AND PROBABLY THE VISIT) LEFT UNRESOLVED WHAT MAY BE A MAJOR POINT OF DIFFERENCE IN THE POLICY OF BOTH COUNTRIES TOWARD THE ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALISTS, I.E. MOSCOW'S SUPPORT AND PREFERENCE FOR ZAPU LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO AND MOZAMBIQUE'S SUPPORT AND PREFERENCE FOR ZANU LEADER ROBERT MUGABE. THIS WAS UNDERSCORED WHEN PODGORNYY REFUSED TO MEET WITH MUGABE SEPARATELY IN MAPUTO AFTER HAVING MET WITH NKOMO IN LUSAKA. AT SOME POINT SOVIET FAVORITISM TOWARD JOSHUA NKOMO AND COOLNESS TOWARD ROBERT MUGABE MAY COMPLICATE MOZAMBIQUE-USSR RELATIONS.

6. COMMENT: BILATERALLY, THE OVERALL EFFECT OF TRIP WILL BE TO STRENGTHEN MOZAMBIQUE-SOVIET RELATIONS AND TO INCREASE SOVIET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE--WHICH HAS INCREASED STEADILY OVER THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS, ALTHOUGH THE SOVIETS WILL PROBABLY BE RELUCTANT TO HELP MOZAMBIKANS UNDERTAKE ANY MAJOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. ALTHOUGH THE FRIENDSHIP TREATY CONTAINS A CLAUSE ON CONTINUED MILITARY COOPERATION, IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER RUSSIANS WILL OBTAIN ANY SPECIAL FACILITIES IN MOZAMBIQUE BEYOND NAVAL SHIP VISIT WHICH HAVE ALREADY COMMENCED. THE EXTENT OF SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE BEYOND SUPPLYING ARMS AND ADVISORS ALSO REMAINS TO BE SEEN.  
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## Message Attributes

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